

## Some Friendly Inquiries That Germany Should Answer

The language of diplomacy differs from that of business. Responding to the latest German note in everyday commercial terms, the president would be apt to make these inquiries, says the New York World.

If, as Herr von Jagow says, Germany values so highly the ancient treaties between Prussia and the United States, still in force, why does it not respect them? In one of them it is written:

"If one of the contracting parties should be engaged in war with another power, the free intercourse and commerce of the subjects or citizens of the party remaining neutral with the belligerent power shall not be interrupted."

Thus far the protests of the United States against Germany's invasion of neutral rights have been based altogether upon international law. The treaties between the two countries, beginning with that of 1785, cover nearly every point now in dispute, in plain words, and all of them have been disregarded by Germany.

If, as Herr von Jagow says, "Germany has no guilt" in the offenses recently committed at sea, how does it happen that its excuse for the Lusitania massacre is not based upon law or right but upon revenge and desperation? A man who killed women and children on such a plea would confess to murder. Is it different with a nation?

If, as Herr von Jagow says, "Germany was driven by British naval activity to submarine war on trade," what is the precise use of the great navy which is now hidden in the Kiel Canal? Is a civilized nation at war privileged to decline honorable battle and resort to cowardly assassination?

If, as Herr von Jagow says, "Germany is conducting a war in self-defense for

national existence," how does it happen that its armies are in Belgium, France and Russia, as they have been from the first days of the struggle? Why are they not behind German fortifications, like the fleet?

If, as Herr von Jagow says, "accidents" involving neutrals at sea in war time "cannot be judged differently from accidents to which neutrals are at all times exposed at the seat of war on land," does he refer particularly to the "accident" that befell neutral Belgium last summer and autumn, when, through no fault of its own, it found itself at the seat of war?

If, as Herr von Jagow says, Great Britain is in a position by reason of its naval supremacy to give "the German people the choice of perishing from starvation or surrendering independence," what choice has Germany given to Belgium, which would have starved but for American charity and whose independence has disappeared in slaughter and devastation?

Finally, if the United States were to accept Herr von Jagow's gracious permission on behalf of Germany, a nation having not a single first-class ship on the ocean, to trade under the tutelage of a few prowling submarines, what greater humiliation could Germany put upon us at the end of a victorious war?

In the guarded language of diplomacy we have now been informed twice from Berlin that Germany recognizes nobody's rights under international law. The next American note might properly contain an inquiry in business-like terms as to the German attitude toward treaties—not treaties with its near neighbors but treaties with an old friend on this side of the Atlantic, for whom is professed a high but rather eccentric regard.

### VIOLATE LIMITED HOUR LAW.

Toledo, O.—The Baltimore & Ohio and the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroads are charged in the United States district court with violating the safety appliance laws and the law limiting the hours of continuous service to sixteen. Seventeen counts are filed against the first named road for violation of the continuous hour law. The names of engineers, firemen and trainmen who were forced to work overtime are included in the complaint.

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## WOUND INFECTIONS FOLLOW ACCIDENTS

Columbus.—That more care is necessary to prevent infection of wounds is shown in a report on accidents, issued by the industrial commission of this state. Of 25,731 industrial accidents causing loss of time but no permanent injury, one out of every 14 was infected in greater or less degree. Of 601 accidents which resulted in permanent partial disability, one out of every 29 was complicated by infection.

According to this report, the danger of infection is much greater in cases of lacerations, punctures, abrasions, bruises, etc., than in cases of burns and scalds. Of 15,389 cases of laceration, etc., one case in 10 became infected. One out of every 20 of the 2,208 burns, scalds, etc., was rendered more serious by infection. Although getting a foreign body in the eye is not popularly regarded as dangerous, in one out of every 24 such cases infection followed.

The 128 fatal accidents analyzed in the report were ascribed to a variety of causes. The deaths of 33 men were ascribed to causes connected with the operation of various kinds of machinery, while hot metals, dynamite, and other materials handled cost 17 lives.

Stamping, shearing, and punching machines won an unenviable first place among the different types of machinery causing permanent partial disability. Out of a total of 601 such accidents, 94 were ascribed to the action of machines of this type.

### FARMERS PROTEST VERDICT.

Everett, Wash.—Secretary Fred W. Lewis, of the Washington State grange, has forwarded to President Marsh, of the State Federation of Labor, copies of protesting resolutions against the Lawson verdict, passed by the farmers at their recent State convention.

### JOIN WITH EMPLOYERS.

Racine, Wis.—Members of the Building Trades Council have joined with employers to better working conditions and also bring the Racine continuation school in direct contact with building craftsmen. It is intended to reach a better understanding on the matter of education for the boys and young men who desire to follow this industry as a means of a livelihood.

### BARBERS' BOARD REORGANIZED

Madison, Wis.—Under the new law appointment to membership of the State Barbers' Board is invested in the State Board of Health which will inspect shops, while the Barbers' Board will serve as an examining board only. The annual fee for barbers is reduced from \$2 to \$1.

### WOMAN SUFFRAGE LOSES.

Madison, Wis.—Woman suffrage met with a temporary setback in this State when the Senate, by a vote of 14 to 17, refused to reconsider a former anti-suffrage decision.

### PLUMBERS STRIKE.

Portland, Me.—Plumbers and steamfitters are on strike to enforce an average wage of \$4.40 per day of eight hours. Employers refused to accept the new rates, despite numerous efforts of the workers to settle the question.

### CHAUFFEURS' LAW ILLEGAL.

Columbus, Ohio.—Common Pleas Judge Dillon has declared the Ohio chauffeurs' license law unconstitutional because the act does not set a standard for granting licenses.

### FAVORS U. S. WIRE CONTROL.

Washington.—Postmaster General Burleson will renew his recommendation of last year to the incoming congress that the government should control the telephone and telegraph service.

It is an interesting fact that whereas policies of government have been advocated and some adopted, the constitutionality of which have been seriously questioned, the principle of government ownership and control of the telegraph and telephone finds its greatest strength in the constitution," he says. "This opinion has been shared by practically all postmasters general of the United States, who have held that the welfare and the happiness of the nation depend upon the fullest utilization of these agencies by the people, which can only be accomplished through government ownership."

### Pointed Paragraphs.

(Chicago News.)

Fast mules often have loose hind legs.

Muscular inactivity is the parent of much ill health.

Many a beautiful hat represents an unpaid milliner's bill.

A parrot should be taught to speak only in polysyllables.

## Why Not Make Free Trip to Frisco Fair

The Labor Advocate has decided to give its friends the opportunity to make some of the most pleasurable trips to be taken in this country, and at no expense to themselves.

Would you like to make the trip to the American Federation of Labor meeting in San Francisco next fall?

Would you like to go to the meeting of the Ohio State Federation at Mansfield, Ohio?

The trip to San Francisco will be made at the time when the great Panama Exposition is in full swing; at the time when all the nations of the world will have their exhibits fully completed, and when the crowds will be at their largest and the city of the Golden Gate in its most gala attire.

The opportunity seldom has been offered to the person of moderate means to take such trip without cost to himself. This trip means a liberal education; it means that you may see all the wonders of modern times, meet and mingle with the peoples of all countries; see the greatest works of art; the most wonderful buildings and electrical effects ever shown; the Chicago and the St. Louis Fairs were as the first steamboat that ran up the Hudson as compared with the present-day trans-Atlantic ocean greyhounds when viewed with what San Francisco will offer to the world this year.

The trip to Mansfield, O., while of lesser importance, also has manifold advantages. Mansfield is a modern little

city, nestling in one of the most beautiful valleys in the world. A week there will give you an outing, free from the smoke and grime of a great city, a chance to "get back to the country" and see the likeness of the old-home town.

Do you want to take one of these trips?

This is how you can do it without cost to yourself:

### Popularity Contest.

The one obtaining the greatest number of votes will receive a railroad ticket over any line he may choose, sleeping car fare and \$50 in cash to pay his incidental expenses.

The one receiving the second highest number of votes will receive his railroad fare to and from Mansfield, O., and \$35 in cash.

To the person receiving the third highest number of votes will be given the same railroad facilities and \$25 in cash.

To the contestant getting the fourth highest number of ballots there will be given the same railroad facilities and \$15 in cash.

Does this sound good to you?

Then this is the way to obtain for yourself or your friends these coveted privileges:

Come to Room 34, Thoms Building, Main and Fifth streets, and the details will be explained. It will not cost you a cent to inquire, and it may mean one of the most profitable and pleasurable events of your life.

## At the Age of 105 this Negro Drinks, Smokes and Chews

Elizabeth City, N. C.—Josiah Hinton is a North Carolina celebrity. He is 105 years old, is in full possession of all his faculties, drinks whiskey, smokes and chews tobacco and takes a keen interest in current events.

Josiah was a witness in a local court a few weeks ago, and attracted the attention of Attorney General Gregory, Postmaster General Burleson and Thomas J. Pence, secretary of the Democratic National Committee, who were here fishing.

Mr. Pence "snapped" the ancient relic, along with Edward Edge, a youngster of 72.

"Edge here ain't nothing but a kid," said Hinton with a snort of contempt. "I've got a son and a girl older than him. My girl is 84 and my boy 85."

Asked as to what he attributed his remarkable longevity, he replied:

"The Lord has blessed me." Asked if he ever took a drink, he said:

"Lord, yes! I wish I had one now." He said he had been taking his drink whenever he felt like it, and chewed tobacco ever since he was 16.

"My old master, who was a doctor, was a good man, and he knew as much as any doctor, but he seldom prescribed medicine. If any of his folks or any of his slaves got sick he gave them a good drink of whiskey. I have never drunk much, but what I have drunk never hurt me."

Hinton and Edge live near the Dismal Swamp section of North Carolina, where juniper trees abound. These trees discolor the waters, making them a dark red. The two old men have drunk this water all their lives. It is the local claim that it prolongs life.

### COST OF TUBERCULOSIS.

New York.—In a pamphlet on "What Tuberculosis Costs in Wages," the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis says that an investigation of 500 cases in Boston shows that these men lost over \$425,000 in wages as a result of this disease.

To emphasize the need for action on this question, the pamphlet makes this point:

"Workingmen are always aroused when an employer or a group of employers suggest a reduction in wages. How many of the men who read this article ever stop to think of the enormous sums of money they are losing in wages very year due to one preventable disease, tuberculosis."

### FEDERAL PRISONERS TO WORK.

Washington.—Attorney General Gregory announces that as a result of his investigation of the Atlanta Federal prison, he hopes to find a way in which these prisoners may be put at work that will allow the government to give a small part of what they earn to their families. The official states that labor of this sort should be only for the government, and along such lines as would not bring the prison-made goods into the open market.

### CURRENT COMMENT.

Portugal has a lot of trouble to keep its republic on straight.—Chicago News. Evidently the "awakening of China" has been postponed for a few years longer.—Washington Star.

They're getting shy of eats in Mexico; but, of course, there is still an overproduction of patriotism.—Indianapolis News.

If ideas and inventions were contraband of war and peace there would be neither flying machines nor submarines on the other side of the Atlantic.—Kansas City Times.

### NOW ARE WE FALLEN UPON EVIL DAYS.

(New York Evening Sun.)

Now are we fallen upon evil days, When half the world is lit with battle-flame, When gaunt destruction, sacrilege and shame Go stalking starkly down earth's pleasant ways, Where men walked joyfully the lurid blaze Of rapine soars, and there is mad acclaim Of those that loudly call on God's high name To justify the sanguine sword that slays.

It is not strange, then, that our souls should long For the sweet recompense that nature yields,

For the seclusion, and the restful song That rises from the peaceful hills and fields, For surcease from the irreparable wrong And for some Power that shelters and that shields!

### TOO MUCH LEGISLATION.

Cape May, N. J.—Increasing legislation is caused by questions having a distinct local option, but which are couched in general terms so as to meet the requirements of the constitution, said Franklin S. Edwards in an address before the Pennsylvania Bar Association. The speaker approved these sentiments of the late Judge Cooley:

"In your constitution making remember that times change, that men change, that new things are invented, new devices, new schemes, new plans, new uses of corporate power. Don't do that to any such extent as to prevent the legislature hereafter from meeting all evils that may be within the reach of proper legislation. Leave something for them."